

Arguments/Remarks:

The specification is amended on page 1 to amend the title, as required by the Examiner in the office action. The specification is also amended on page 1 to update the cross reference to the parent application previously identified in Applicants' Preliminary Amendment, as also required by the Examiner. This application is now U.S. Patent 6,809,269.

The specification is also amended at page 7 consistently with the amending to the parent application. Specifically, the specification is amended at page 7 to further define Applicants' optional sticker sheet material 31 shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 as not physically engaging the conductive paste prior to the substrate bonding. The original last paragraph language references page 5 for a definition of this material, which states the material to be dielectric. See line 24 of page 5. Finally, FIGS. 1 and 2 clearly show material 31 (if used) as not engaging the sides of paste 25. Because the sticker sheet does not physically engage the paste, it does not provide support therefore during the bonding operation, as now also included in the last paragraph. It is also seen in FIG. 1 that nowhere else does the conductive paste physically engage any other dielectric material. Support is thus fully provided for this amending to page 7 and such amending does not, therefore, constitute the addition of new matter. Entry of this amending was deemed acceptable in the parent application and should likewise be acceptable here. Entry is urged.

Applicants affirm the election of claims 18 and 19, following the restriction by the Examiner. The claims submitted herewith apply to Species A as listed by the Examiner in the office action and are readable on Species A. More specifically, new independent claim 22 includes the limitations of previous independent claim 18. New dependent claim 23 includes the limitations of previous claim 19. New dependent claims 24 – 26 are also readable on Species A, and find full support in the specification at page 7 (3rd paragraph). Significantly, new independent claim 22 further includes the

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Amdt. dated 01/18/06

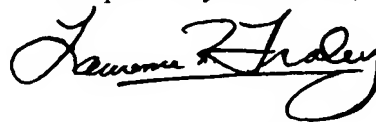
Reply to Office action of 01/09/06

limitations of claim 1 in the issued parent application, albeit in method format.

Accordingly, claim 22 is patentably distinguishable over the documents of record in the application, including particularly Bindra et al (5,129,142), cited by the Examiner in the office action. Bindra et al, for example, fails to suggest the substantial filling of one opening in one substrate and the subsequent bonding of this substrate to another such that paste in the one opening also partly flows into an opening in a second, in combination with the use of an external dielectric layer which partially extends within an opening of one of the substrates, and of not engaging the paste with a dielectric layer prior to the bonding of the substrates. Other distinctions over Bindra et al are further discernible from a closer reading of this patent. The rejection under 35 USC 102 is thus overcome and withdrawal thereof is urged. Dependent claims 23 – 26 depend directly or indirectly from claim 22 and thus from subject matter deemed patentable. Said claims are similarly viewed. Allowance of all of the claims remaining herein, claims 22 – 26, is respectfully requested.

The Application is deemed in condition for allowance, and such action on the part of the Examiner is respectfully urged. Should the Examiner believe, however, that minor differences may remain which, if overcome, will result in allowance of this Application and that said differences may be openly discussed in a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to phone the undersigned to discuss such differences and hopefully resolve same, thereby expediting prosecution of this Application.

Respectfully submitted,



By

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